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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6533

BILL NUMBER: HB 1236

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 17, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Higher Education Accountability and Reporting.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Noe

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires a state educational institution to prepare annual reports concerning measures of institutional accountability and intellectual diversity. The bill requires the reports to be submitted to the Commission for Higher Education and the General Assembly and to be published on the Internet web sites of state educational institutions.

Effective Date: July 1, 2010.

Explanation of State Expenditures: State education institutions could incur some additional expense in the collecting and publishing of the accountability and intellectual diversity reports by campus. The additional cost would be to develop and collect the data the first year. After the first year, the additional costs would probably be minor. The additional cost the first year would be paid from existing institutional revenue.

The state educational institution's undergraduate report would include:

1. The institutional profile and student demographic data.
 - a. The institution's purpose and mission.
 - b. Admission standards for each college and academic degree program within the state educational institution.
 - c. Clear, accurate, comprehensive, and updated description of the student body profile.
 - d. Tuition, fees, and total costs, including average costs for books and laboratory fee by academic degree program.
 - e. Affordability factors, including average student loan amounts, the percentage of students receiving financial aid, the average amount of financial aid received.
 - f. Crime rates.

2. Measures of academic quality for each college and academic program.
 - a. The percentage of faculty with highest academic degree in their field of study.
 - b. The average teaching load by academic discipline.
 - c. The general education requirements for each academic degree program.
 - d. The criteria for transfer to each academic degree program.
 - e. The process for evaluating the effectiveness of each academic degree program and the program's desired student outcomes.
 - f. A clear explanation of student outcomes expected in each academic degree program and how the outcomes are measured.
 - g. Criteria for measuring satisfactory academic progress for the state educational institution.

3. Student progress and outcome measures.
 - a. First-to-second year student retention rates.
 - b. Graduation rates after four, five, and six years.
 - c. Transfer rates.
 - d. Percentage of students in each academic year taking remedial courses.
 - e. The average time to earn a degree.
 - f. Average scores on external validated, nationally benchmarked outcomes assessments in core areas, including writing, mathematics, and general education, if applicable.
 - g. Measures of student and employer satisfaction.
 - h. Average scores on graduate admission tests and licensure tests taken by students.
 - i. Admission rates for bachelor's degree recipients into graduate programs.

The state educational institution's diversity report has to address specific measures taken to ensure and promote intellectual diversity on campus.

The reports are to be sent to the Commission for Higher Education, the General Assembly, and published on the institutions' website.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State colleges and universities.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

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